

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Southern Adventist University Dedicates Land for Future School of Business Facility

*By Amanda Blake*

Despite the threat of rain, Southern Adventist University students, employees, donors, and community members joined together on February 24 to dedicate land for a new building to house the School of Business. After opening remarks, the group formed a large circle around the future facility's location and prayed together over the land.

Several university and community leaders were present, including President Ken Shaw, EdD; Ron Smith, PhD, chairman of Southern's Board of Trustees and president of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and local business owner Franklin Farrow, chairman of the fundraising campaign for the School of Business.

"We're very grateful that many have stepped up with their donations, time, and energies to make this project possible," Farrow said. "Southern is in the business of changing and equipping hearts, and as we take on this challenge of creating a new building, let's remember that it's more than bricks and mortar. It is a place that will shape characters for generations to come."

The School of Business is the second largest academic area on the university's campus, with a 10% increase in its enrollment over the last five years. At approximately 42,000 square feet, the new building will be nearly five times as large as the current space designated for business programs in Brock Hall. It will house a large, multipurpose auditorium, and its investment lab will include 12 Bloomberg Financial Terminals—computer software systems on which students can analyze real-time financial market data.

Thanks to alumni, donors, and other friends of the university, \$15.5 million of the \$20 million campaign, which also includes an endowment, has been raised through donations and commitments. Groundbreaking for the new facility is planned for early Fall 2023.

"God has anointed our students to be kingdom builders in the marketplace," said Stephanie Sheehan, PhD, dean of the School of Business. "He has called and will continue to call many students here, and we are thankful they will soon have a new facility to call home."

For more information, visit [southern.edu/gobusiness](https://southern.edu/gobusiness).

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